

OBITUARY.

GEORGE RATTRAY.

1872-1941.

It is with regret that we announce the death of Dr. G. Rattray, M.A., D.Sc., which took place on the 13th May, 1941.

George Rattray was born in Aberdeenshire in 1872 and was educated at the Tough Public School, Old Aberdeen, and King's College, Aberdeen, graduating M.A. in 1894. Entering the teaching profession, he taught for a while at Annan Academy, Dumfries, and then came to South Africa, where he was for three years on the staff of the Graaff-Reinet High School. He then returned to Scotland and took his B.Sc. degree at his old university of Aberdeen, obtaining special distinction in botany and zoology. In 1903 he came back to South Africa, teaching for a year at the Boys' High School, Wellington.

In 1904 he was appointed principal of Selborne College, East London, a post which he held for 27 years. In the midst of his multifarious duties as head of this important school for boys he found time to pursue his studies in botany and zoology. He carried out research work in connection with the Cycads, visiting during his holidays many parts of South Africa to examine the various species. For his thesis on the Cycadaceae of South Africa, the University of Aberdeen in 1910 conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Science. He collaborated with Dr. J. Hutchinson in the account of the South African Cycads published in the *Flora Capensis* in 1933.

Dr. Rattray took a keen interest in all local affairs and had for many years been a valued member of the East London Public Library Committee and Museum Board.